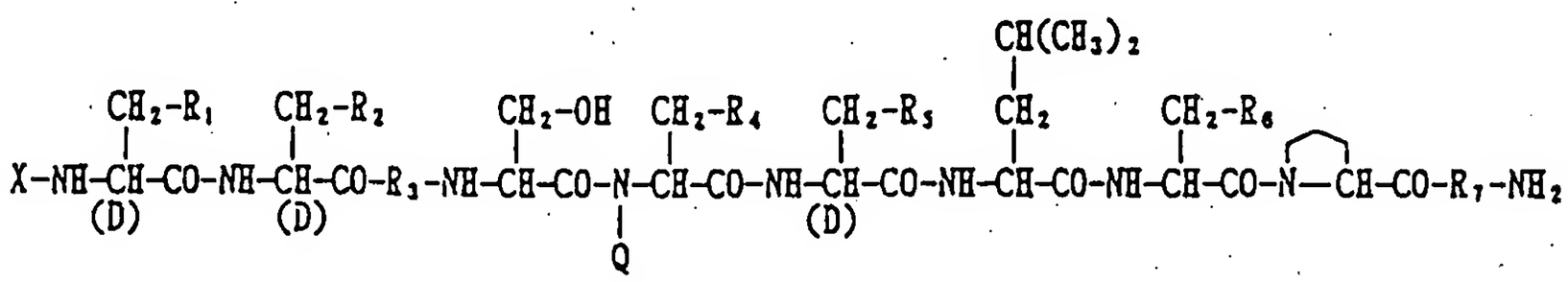
IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please substitute the attached page with a new Abstract in place of the originally filed Abstract.

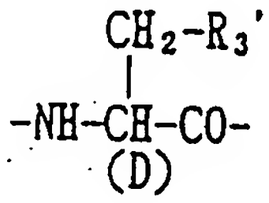
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A sustained-release preparation which comprises a physiologically active peptide of the general formula



wherein X represents an acyl group; R_1, R_2 and R_4 each represents an aromatic cyclic group; R_3 represents a D-amino acid residue or a group of the formula



wherein R_3' is a heterocyclic group; R_5 represents a group of the formula --$(CH_2)_n$--R_5', wherein n is 2 or 3 and R_5' is an amino group which ~~may~~ is optionally ~~be~~ substituted, an aromatic cyclic group or an O-glycosyl group; R_6 represents a group of the formula --$(CH_2)_n$-R_6', wherein n is 2 or 3 and R_6' is an amino group which ~~may~~ is optionally ~~be~~ substituted; R_7 represents a D-amino acid residue or an azaglycyl residue; and Q represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl group, or a salt thereof; and a biodegradable polymer having a terminal carboxyl group.

2. (currently amended) The sustained-release preparation according to claim 1, wherein X is a C_{2-7} alkanoyl group which ~~may~~ is optionally ~~be~~ substituted by a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic carboxamido group.

ABSTRACT

A sustained-release preparation which comprises a physiologically active peptide of general formula I and a biodegradable polymer having a terminal carboxyl group. The sustained-release preparation shows a constant release of the peptide over a long period of time and is substantially free from an initial burst.